



"Beverly Renn"
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01/11/2009 09:05 PM

To <jim_b_lewis@nps.gov>

cc

bcc

Subject blood/cradle/Robinson

For Follow Up: Urgent Priority

Dear Jim Lewis, Park Ranger,

After touring the battlefield the next day after we met you, we went to Dowelltown in DeKalb Co., TN. Since I know no one who lives there anymore and had not been there for 52 years, I went into the post office for help in locating the Robinson homeplace that I had enjoyed visiting those many years ago. She said there was no one left in Dowelltown who could help me. She advised me then to go to Smithville about 10 or 12 miles east of Dowelltown and find the library. There is an elderly genealogist, Tommy Webb, who sits in the library as a volunteer every day, rain or shine, and knows more about early settlers and their descendants than everybody else in the county put together. So it is what we did, and we spent an enjoyable morning talking to him as he shared his knowledge with us.

First of all, Wingate Truitt Robinson fought for the North, not the South. I was wrong. Apparently it was common in DeKalb County for men to fight for the North, although most of them did fight for the South. Apparently there were a few who even discarded their Southern military uniforms and put on Northern uniforms as the Civil War came closer and closer to an end.

Wingate Truitt Robinson and his father, Ned Robinson, brought supplies from Carthage in those days before the Civil War from Carthage, TN, up Smith Fork to Dowelltown in DeKalb County. After the war started, Wingate Robinson went to Carthage to buy salt and inquired about who would win, the Union or the Confederacy. A wise and logical man in Carthage told him that the South would lose, so Wingate talked it over with his father Ned Robinson. They decided that since Wingate was unable to make up his mind that it would be sensible to join the winning side. So on that basis, Wingate Truitt Robinson fought for the North.

He fought under Colonel William B. Stokes who had been a Representative in Congress in Washington, D.C., from DeKalb County and surrounding area. The Stokeses has been early settlers in DeKalb County as had the Robinsons. It was the 5th Cavalry, Company K. The genealogist at Smithville said that W.T. Robinson would have been a lieutenant at Stones River. He did not move into the rank of captain until later. The name of the private whose baby the cradle was made for was J.H. Hicks of Dowelltown.

Would you kindly let me know if you can now find the name of Wingate Truitt Robinson in any of your reference materials? I would like to have some proof that he actually fought there. Do you think it is a true story about the cradle? And the "Reconnaissance in Force"? The genealogist at Smithville feels it did happen when he read my story as he was acquainted with the man who wrote the account.

Thank you for your interest.

Janet-Beverly Renn
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This toy cradle is a relic from the bloody battlefield of Murfreesboro Tennessee, a Campaign of the Civil War of 1861-65.

Union and Confederate Armies were locked in opposing positions during winter of 1863-64.

The fighting between positions was bloody. During their stalemate position more than forty thousand men were killed at Murfreesboro.

The dead and the wounded were transported out of the battlefield areas of combat carried upon boards from demolished houses. This toy cradle is made out of pieces of this wood. It was made at night on the battlefield at a Cavalry station.

W. T. Robinson of De Kalb County Tennessee was Captain of Cavalry at Murfreesboro Stones River Campaign. He heard under his command a sergeant Hicks. News came from back home 35 miles away that Mr. Hicks at his home had new baby. Vivia Hicks. The soldiers were battle weary and wanted to go home. To visit folks.

Grandpa Robinson wrangled an order from the Commanding General for his mounted Company to go out on a seven day "reconnaissance in force". This order allowed them to range out beyond thirty miles.

In preparing to go out on this reconnaissance the Hicks baby was thought of and a present for her was wished for. The men picked up pieces of bloody boards from around the Cavalry station and quickly cut out this crib with crude tools of the battlefield. It was made of dimension that would carry on horse back in Calvaryman pack disassembled.

(2)

The nails were salvaged from the lumber and straightened between stones by light of camp fire.

The Cradle was taken to the Hicks home and presented to the baby Vina.

The soldiers returned to battle area and renewed conflict. Sargeant Hicks was killed in a Cavalry Charge. And many of their Comrades. Grandpa's home was killed in same Charge.

Back in De Kalb County Mrs Hicks and Vina went to live at Grandpa's home for duration of the war. Mrs Hicks died in 1865 with typhoid fever. Vina and her Cradle stayed at Grandpa's house. In 1868 Vina died of whooping cough - measles.

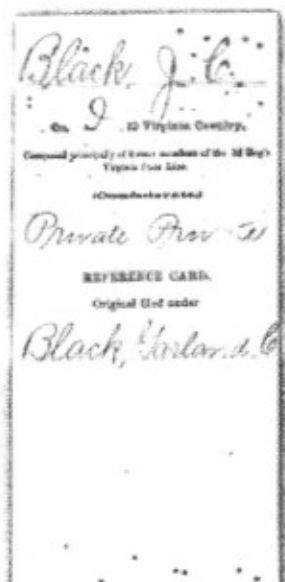
The Cradle stayed at Grandpa Robinson's home and in time became a play thing for the Robins grand children. Turrentine, Buckner and Robinson. Alma Robinson was born June 19 1889. The Cradle became her property. Fout Robinson was born March 5 1880 Alma little brother. She played with him with this Cradle and in time with Dr Hoyt's children Helen and Hoyt Guy. Faye Robinson was born Oct 1928 she played with this same toy. Aunt Alma died 1862. The Cradle came to Oxford Penna to Fout's home. At Oxford it has been played with by Fout's four boys children and by Carl Wayne Robinson and his sons Mitchell and Carl Jr.

written by F. B. Robinson MD
from info given him by
his Grandfather and Mother.

Detailed Soldier Record

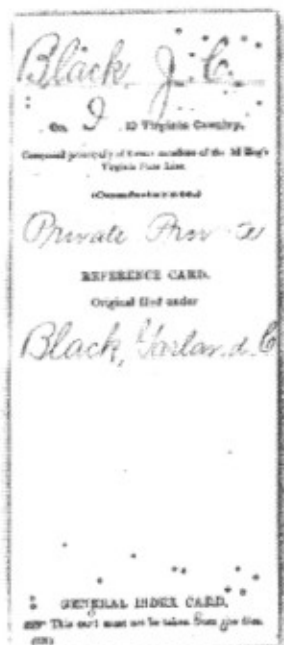
Click on the question marks for help with this form.

Wingate T. Robinson (First_Last)
Regiment Name 5 Tennessee Cavalry.
Side Union
Company ? K
Soldier's Rank_In ? 1 Lieut
Soldier's Rank_Out ? 1 Lieut
Alternate Name ?
Notes
Film Number M392 roll 13

**Detailed Soldier Record**

Click on the question marks for help with this form.

James L. Hicks (First_Last)
Regiment Name 5 Tennessee Cavalry
Side Union
Company ? C M
Soldier's Rank_In ? Sgt.
Soldier's Rank_Out ? 1 Lieut.
Alternate Name ?
Notes
Film Number M392 roll 7



The information for the Soldier Records on this site was taken from a General Index Card like this one. (SAMPLE)

UNION TENNESSEE VOLUNTEERS

5th Regiment, Tennessee Cavalry

Organized at Murfreesboro, Nashville and Carthage, Tenn., July 15, 1862. Attached to Post of Nashville, Tenn., Army of the Ohio, to November, 1862. Reserve Cavalry, Cavalry Division, Army of the Cumberland, to January, 1863. Post of Nashville, Tenn., Dept. of the Cumberland, to June, 1863. Post of Nashville, Tenn., Reserve Corps, Dept. of the Cumberland, June, 1863. 1st Brigade, 2nd Cavalry Division, Army of the Cumberland, to August, 1863. 3rd Brigade, 2nd Division, Cavalry Corps, Dept. of the Cumberland, to November, 1863. 1st Brigade, 2nd Cavalry Division, Army of the Cumberland, to April, 1864. 2nd Brigade, 4th Division, Cavalry Corps, Dept. of the Cumberland, to October, 1864. 2nd Brigade, 4th Division, Cavalry Corps, Military Division Mississippi, to November, 1864. 3rd Brigade, 6th Division, Cavalry Corps, Military Division Mississippi, to February, 1865. 3rd Brigade, 6th Division, Cavalry Corps, Military Division Mississippi, to February, 1865. District Middle Tennessee, to August, 1865.

SERVICE.-Duty at Nashville, Tenn., till December 26, 1862. Affair at Kinderhook August 11, 1862. Skirmish near Nashville September 2. Siege of Nashville September 7-November 7. Goodlettsville September 30. Gallatin October 1. Near Humboldt October 9. Near Nashville November 5. Near Lavergne November 7. Reconnoissance toward Lavergne November 19. Reconnoissance to Franklin December 11-12. Franklin December 12. Advance on Murfreesboro December 26-30. Nolensville Pike December 27. Wilkinson's Cross Roads December 29. Battle of **Stones River** December 30-31, 1862, and January 1-3, 1863. Overall's Creek December 31, 1862. Lytle's Creek January 5. Reconnoissance to Auburn, Liberty and Cainesville January 20-22. Near Cainesville February 15. Manchester Pike February 22. Bradysville March 1. Expedition to Woodbury March 3-8. Near Auburn March 8. **Vaught's Hill** near Milton March 20 (Co. "E"). Expedition to Auburn, Liberty, Snow Hill, etc., April 2-6. Snow Hill or Smith's Ford and Liberty April 3. Liberty April 7. Expedition to McMinnville April 20-30. Hartsville April 22. Bradyville Pike May 17. (Two Companies on Streight's Raid toward Rome, Ga., April 26-May 3. **Day's Gap** or Sand Mountain, Crooked Creek and Hog Mountain April 30. Blountsville and East Branch, Big Warrior River, May 1. Blake's Creek near Gadsden May 2. Blount's Farm and near Centre May 2. Near Cedar Bluff May 3.) Bradyville Pike May 17. Expedition to Middleton May 21-22. Scout on Middleton or Eagleville Pike June 10. Expedition to Lebanon June 15-17. Skirmish at Lebanon June 16. Dixon Springs June 20. Middle Tennessee or Tullahoma Campaign June 23-July 7. Shelbyville June 25. Fosterville, Guy's Gap and Shelbyville June 27. Duty at Carthage, McMinnville, Alexandria, Tracy City and Shelbyville, operating against guerrillas on line of the Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad till February, 1864. Pulaski July 15, 1863. Expedition to Huntsville, Ala., July 18-22. Scout in Sequatchie Valley September 21-22. Missionary Ridge and Shallow Ford Gap September 22. Operations against Wheller and Roddy October 1-17. (Re-opening Tennessee River October 26-29 (Co. "G"). Battle of **Wauhatchie**, Tenn., October 28-29 (Co. "G"). Centreville October 29 (Co. "G"). Eagleville December 7. McMinnville December 21. Lavergne December 29. Scout to White and Putnam Counties February 1-7, 1864. Operations against guerrillas about Sparta February to April, Johnson's Mills February 22 (Detachment). Sparta and Calf Killer River February 22. White County March 10. Operations about Sparta March 11-28. Calf Killer River March 11. Winchester March 17. Beersheeba Springs March 19. Duty at Nashville, Tenn., and on line of the Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad at McMinnville, Carthage, Tullahoma and other points till November, 1864. Scout in Lincoln County July 12-15. McMinnville August --. Murfreesboro September 4. Operations about Murfreesboro November, 1864, to January, 1865. Siege of Murfreesboro December 4-12, 1864. Overall's Creek December 4 (Detachment). Demonstrations on **Murfreesboro** December 5-7. Wilkinson's Cross Road near Murfreesboro and the Cedars December 7. Ordered to Fayetteville January, 1865, and duty patrolling line of the Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad and duty in District of East Tennessee till August, 1865. Skirmish near McMinnville February 5, 1865. Mustered out August 14, 1865.

Regiment lost during service 1 Officer and 68 Enlisted men killed and mortally

